the existing 22 biocks its performance needs to be watched before the question of its extension can be taken up.

Lifting oi Palmojien Oil by Kerals Corporation

•513. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN EEDDY: Wil! the Minister of FOOD IUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala Civil Supplies Corporation has been asked by the Central Govern ment to l
oil from the Mangalore Port instead of from Cochin which is the nearest available port;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for takinision; and

(c) whether the road transport charges from Mangalore to Cochin is to be borne by the Central Govern ment?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): !(a) and (b) The Kerala Government has been asked to Hft its allocation of Imported edible oils from Mangalore which is the regular depot of the STC for that State. Keeping in view the present high allocation, they can be permitted to take delivery of imported edible oils from ships at Cochin in case th ay are able to arrange suitable storage at the port.

(c) Yes. Sir.

Newsmen accompanying the Prime Minister on Foreign Tours

•514. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred ftuesticn 1362 given in the Rajya Sabhas on the 20th November, 1987 and state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which Tioeareri in 'the Indian Posf dated the October 17, 1987 to the I the GovernmentofIndiahad Ines f5sued of Tndia on October 5, 1987 in this regard;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to follow the guidelines issued by th* Press Council of India in this regard; and

(dl if not w-hat are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OP STATt OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRl AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The Govern.
ment have seen the news item. I* speaks of alleged discrimination in selecting the journalists accompanying the PM on his foreign tours and also refers to the guidelines issued by th* Press Council for selection of jouroa. lists for official vii

'(c) and (d) The Government have brought these guidelines to the notice of the concerned organisations. The

principal criterion for selecting journalists is to obtain best possible coverage in the print/electronic media. Due weightage is given to person; with expertise in covering the PM's engagements and the interest of re. presentation to regions and languages.

Terrace Agriculture

*515. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURIJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to end Jhum (shirting cultivation) and popularise terrace agriculture to save forests; and